

**By Joshua A. Goldbern**

<http://www.christianpost.com/article/20100927/coptic-pope-very-sorry-for-bishops-quran-remarks/>

Christians in Egypt claim they are marginalized in society and reportedly suffer from violent forms of abuse. They also lack fair representation in the government, leading to further abuse of the minority group.

Since 2002, Egypt has been on the **U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom's** "Watch List" for its serious religious freedom violations, including widespread problems of discrimination, intolerance, and other human rights violations against members of religious minorities.

According to Egypt's constitution, Islam is the "religion of the state" and the country's "principle source of legislation." Egypt's Christian population, meanwhile, makes up eight to 12 percent of the overall population.